

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00990 201659Z

55

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05 /080 W

----- 077709

R 201535Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6482

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USNATO 1465

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MOPS, IC

SUBJECT: FURTHER ARTICLES ON "UNDERWATER SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM"

REF: REYKJAVIK 0978

1. IN JULY 19 FOLLOW-UP TO ARTICLES ON "UNDERWATER SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM" DAILY DAGBLAADID CARRIED FURTHER ARTICLE CONTAINING STATEMENT BY SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER BENDIKT GRONDAL. ARTICLE AS FOLLOWS:

"THE REASON I AM RAISING THIS NOW IS PRIMARILY BECAUSE THERE IS MUCH INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT SUCH A DEFENSE SYSTEM ABROAD AND THE DEFENSE OF THIS COUNTRY HAS BEEN UNDER A GREAT DEAL OF DISCUSSION FOLLOWING OUR EXPERIENCE IN THE COD WAR.' HE THINKS IT IS COMPLETELY INDEFENSIBLE THAT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO GET FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MATTER ESPECIALLY SINCE THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT ABROAD. HE MENTIONED THIS MATTER PREVIOUSLY AFTER HE HAD SEEN AN

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 REYKJA 00990 201659Z

ARTICLE ABOUT UNDERWATER SYSTEMS OFF THE ICELANDIC

COAST IN THE YEAR BOOK OF THE PEACE INSTITUTE IN STOCK-HOLM, AND ESPECIALLY AFTER THE PUBLICATION SEA TECHNOLOGY HAD ASSERTED THAT THIS WAS SO IN 1973. "I HAVE ASKED AS A REPORTER AND AS A MEMBER OF THE ALTHING BOTH IN THE WEST AND IN BRUSSELS ABOUT THIS MATTER BUT IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN LIKE COMING UP AGAINST A WALL.' IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE UNITED STATES STARTED EXPERIMENTS WITH UNDERWATER LISTENING SYSTEMS IN 1950-55 AND HAS SPENT A LOT OF MONEY ON THIS. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHEN THEY SET UP THE LISTENING SYSTEM AROUND THIS COUNTRY BUT AS WE HAVE HEARD IN THE NEWS MANY TIMES, CABLE SHIPS FROM THE AMERICAN FLEET HAVE BEEN SEEN OFF OUR COAST. THE ONLY TIME IT IS KNOWN THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE ADMITTED ANYTHING ALONG THIS LINE WAS WHEN A FISHING BOAT FROM HOFN CAUGHT ITS TRAWL ON A CABLE, THEN THEY ADMITTED OWNING THE CABLE."

2. IN ACCOMPANYING EDITORIAL, DAGBLADID COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

"NOW WE HAVE DEFINITE NEWS THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE SET UP A SYSTEM OF LISTENING CABLES FROM ICELAND. THROUGH THIS SYSTEM, THE BASE AT KEFLAVIK CAN FOLLOW THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF SOVIET SUBMARINES AND WORLD SHIPPING. THIS SUPPORTS THE CONCLUSION THAT THE DEFENSE FORCE IS NOT HERE PRIMARILY TO DEFEND ICELAND BUT RATHER THAT ITS MAIN PURPOSE IS TO DEFEND THE UNITED STATES WITH AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE SURVEILANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE SOVIET FLEET. ICELAND IS AN OUTPOST OF THE US DEFENSE SYSTEM AND THE MORE COMPLETE THAT SYSTEM IS, THE MORE OF A LOSS IT WOULD BE FOR THE UNITED STATES TO LOSE ITS POSITION HERE. IT HAS BEEN KNOWN THAT THE SURVEILLANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE SOVIET FLEET AND PLANES HAS BEEN THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE DEFENSE FORCE IN ICELAND. THUS THIS LATEST INFORMATION DOES NOT SURPRISE US BUT IT SHOWS HOW EXTENSIVE THE AMERICAN SYSTEM IS. A LOT OF MONEY HAS BEEN PUT INTO IT WHICH FURTHER SUPPORTS ESTIMATES BY NATO LEADERS THAT IT WOULD COST THE UNITED STATES FOUR THOUSAND BILLION KRONUR TO REPLACE THE LOSS OF FACILITIES IN ICELAND."

MARTIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, RADAR, SURVEILLANCE, SUBMARINES, WARNING SYSTEMS, LISTENING DEVICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976REYKJA00990  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760279-0635  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760740/aaaabjfx.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 REYKJAVIK 978  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hackerp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FURTHER ARTICLES ON "UNDERWATER SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM"  
**TAGS:** MARR, MOPS, IC, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006